

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 ARA-08 COA-01 IO-03 NSC-10 NSCE-00

CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 EB-03 PM-03

DODE-00 CG-00 AF-04 EA-13 EUR-10 NEA-06 DOTE-00 RSR-01

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R 270503 Z MAR 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7171

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

S E C R E T USUN 1053

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS3, 12-31-1995

TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJECT: LOS: BRAZILIAN POSITION

1. ACTING LEGAL ADVISER BROWER AND DELOFF MET MARCH 23 WITH AMB GUERREIRO, BRAZIL REP TO SEABED COMITE, AND THOMPSON-FLORES OF BRAZIL MISSION. MAIN SUBJECT WAS BRAZIL 200- MILE TERRITORIAL SEA POSITION AND CONSEQUENT OPPOSITION TO FUNDAMENTAL US SECURITY INTERESTS IN NAVIGATION AND OVERFLIGHT. THIS CONTRASTED WITH GOOD US- BRAZIL RELATIONS.

2. GUERREIRO MADE NO SUBSTANTIVE ARGUMENTS IN DEFENSE OF GOB POSITION, NOR DID HE SEEK TO CONTRADICT US CONCLUSION THAT GOB POSITION IS IN DIRECT CONFLICT WITH FUNDAMENTAL US SECURITY INTERESTS. HE SAID HE HAD RECEIVED RIGID INSTRUCTIONS, REALIZED BRAZIL WAS IN EXTREME POSITION ALONE OR POSSIBLY WITH CHINA, BUT SAW NO RPT NO POSSIBILITY OF ALTERATION IN GOB POSITION AT THIS TIME OR IN NEAR FUTURE. BASIC REASON FOR POSITION WAS POLITICAL AND HIGH LEVEL, AND EVEN FONMIN GIBSON BARBOZA, WHO AGREED WITH GUERREIRO' S PLEAS FOR SOME FLEXIBILITY, COULD NOT ACHIEVE THIS. WHEN WE NOTED THAT GOB LOS POSITION INCONSISTENT WITH BRAZIL' S VIEW OF ITS FUTURE, GUERREIRO SAID HE
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HAD MADE THE SAME ARGUEMENTS. WHEN THOMPSON- FLORES BEGAN TO INQUIRE IF US COULD AGREE TO LIMIT MILITARY MANEUVERS,

GUERREIRO STOPPED HIM AND SAID THERE WAS NO SENSE IN IMPLYING FLEXIBILITY. HOWEVER, GUERREIRO DID NOT RULE OUT BRAZIL JOINING A WIDE CONSENSUS ONCE AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED.

3. THOMPSON- FLORES SAID HE WAS INTERESTED IN KNOWING HOW LIBYANS WOULD EXPLAIN RECENT INCIDENT INVOLVING US AIRCRAFT IN MEDITERRANEAN. WE NOTED THAT BRAZIL' S POSITION ON A 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA, SHOULD IT GIVE RISE TO A LIBYAN DECISION TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION BY ARGUING THAT A COASTAL STATE MAY EXTEND ITS TERRITORIAL SEA AND THEREBY CONTROL OVER-FLIGHT, WOULD RESULT IN PREJUDICE TO BASIC US SECURITY INTERESTS; GOB WILLINGNESS NOT TO RESTRICT US OPERATION OFF BRAZIL COULD IN NO WAY RECTIFY THIS.

4. COMMENT: GUERREIRO CLEARLY SEEMED TO BE SUGGESTING THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF ALTERING GOB POSITION SHORT OF PERSUADING PRESIDENT MEDICI. MOREOVER, OTHER REPORTS OVER PAST TWO YEARS INDICATE THAT GIBSON BARBOZA MAY BE PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR GOB INFLEXIBILITY. THUS IT IS POSSIBLE THAT GUERREIRO IS IN FACT ASKING US TO GO OVER GISON BARBOZA' S HEAD.
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